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COMMERCIAL FISHERIES OUTLOOK

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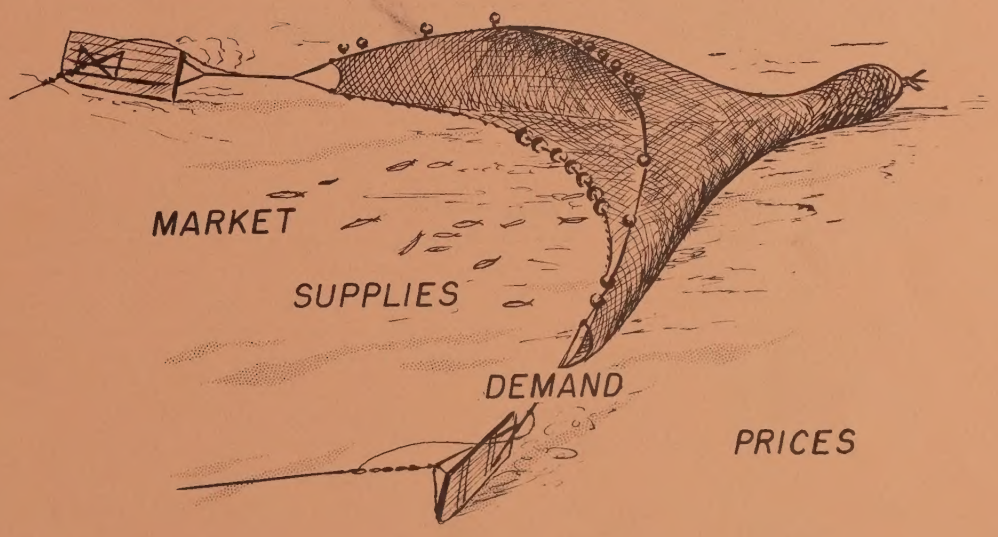

October - December 1960

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Department of the Interior

Washington, D.C.

Fishery Leaflet 336 tt

United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Department of the Interior

Fishery Leaflet 336 tt

Washington 25, D. C. October 1960

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Prepared in the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries

COMMERCIAL FISHERIES OUTLOOK

October - December 1960

THE OUTLOOK AT A GLANCE

BUSINESS ACTIVITY.....	Sharp decline in inventory spending as economy adjusts itself to supply-demand situations.
FOOD.....	Supply should be large with a strong demand and possible slight decline in retail prices.
FISHERY PRODUCTION.....	Beginning seasonal decline, stocks lower than last year.
MARKETS.....	Generally steady.
COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS.....	Lower than last year for most species; some wide variations.
EXPORTS.....	High for fish oils; about normal for other fishery products.
DEMAND.....	Light for fish meal; good for most species.

GENERAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

Industrial production in August was slightly below the May-July level and unemployment increased. Retail sales were maintained as personal income changed little. Bank credit showed a small increase. In late August and early September, common stock prices declined.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION - During August, industrial production was 109 percent of the 1957 average, about 1 percent below July. Iron and steel production declined in August, and in early September steel mill operations did not show usual seasonal expansion, partly because of rail strikes. Production of nondurable materials, after rising to a new high in July, declined in August as the output of textiles, paper, and chemicals was reduced, and the production of mineral fuels was maintained. Auto assemblies increased, reflecting a smaller than usual curtailment for model changeovers, and September production schedules indicate an additional rise. On the other hand, output of furniture, television, and some other home goods was reduced further and output of apparel and consumer staples declined slightly from record levels.

CONSTRUCTION - The value of new construction put in place rose slightly in August and was at an adjusted annual rate of $54.5 billion. A further decline in private residential building was offset in part by a rise in private construction for business purposes, and in public highway construction.

EMPLOYMENT - Seasonally adjusted employment in nonfarm establishments declined slightly in August, mainly reflecting layoffs at automobile plants and steel mills. However, total employment continued at a record high for the month, and unemployment fell, although not as much as usual for this time of the year. The seasonally adjusted rate of unemployment was 5.9 percent of the labor force.

DISTRIBUTION - Seasonally adjusted retail sales, which had declined 2 percent in July, were unchanged in August. While auto sales rose somewhat, sales at department stores and most other retail outlets declined. Dealer stocks of autos were substantially reduced in August in advance of new model introductions, but remained higher than at pre-introduction dates in other years.

COMMODITY PRICES - The wholesale commodity price index remained stable in August and in early September. Average prices of industrial commodities changed little, although prices of rubber, textiles, and some other materials declined further. Among foodstuffs, prices of meats dropped.

THE FOOD SITUATION

THE FOOD OUTLOOK

The demand for food is expected to continue strong in the fourth quarter. Food supplies should be large. Retail prices will decline some in the next few months but are expected to remain a little above the year earlier.

MEATS

A little less meat will be available for civilian consumption in the remainder of 1960 than last year in the same period. Beef, veal, and lamb will continue moderately more plentiful than in 1959. However, their increases will be more than offset by the reduction in pork supplies. Retail meat prices will probably average a little higher than in the second half of 1959.

POULTRY AND EGGS

Total production of broilers and fryers will probably show another gain this year. Based on hatchery operations thus far this summer, and assuming egg settings over the next several months will taper down toward year-earlier levels, the 1960 broiler-fryer slaughter might reach 1.8 billion head. The 1960 turkey crop will number about the same as the 82 million raised last year. Egg supplies during the last quarter of this year are expected to continue below those in the same period in 1959. Retail prices for eggs and poultry meats this year are expected to average well above the low levels last year.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

Milk production thus far in 1960 has been higher than same period last year, and prices to farmers as well as those for manufactured dairy products are near 1959 levels. Retail prices of milk and dairy products are expected to average a little higher than last year. Within the fluid products group, significant divergent consumption trends have been under way for a number of years. Per capita use of low-fat or fat-free fluid milk products has increased substantially, while consumption of fluid whole milk has tended to decline.

FATS AND OILS

Civilian per capita consumption of food fats and oils during the calendar year 1960 is expected to be 45.7 pounds (fat content), about equal to the 1959 rate. Margarine use per person this year probably will set a new record, while the rate for butter probably will decline again to a new record low.

GENERAL FISHERY SITUATION

COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS of edible fishery products on September 1, 1960 were about 23 million pounds lower than those a year earlier, but 14 million pounds higher than on September 1, 1958. Higher holdings than last year were reported for crabs, fish sticks and portions, flounder, oysters, and breaded shrimp. Lower holdings were reported for most other major species.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX for all fish and shellfish (fresh, frozen, and canned) in August, 1960 was 3.8 percent higher than that a year earlier because of higher prices for fresh and frozen halibut, fresh salmon, shucked oysters, fresh and frozen shrimp, and canned fish.

IMPORTS of fish meal and solubles during the first seven months of this year amounted to 79,500 tons compared with 105,000 tons in the same period in 1959. Imports of solubles continued at a low level with only 2,614 tons received compared with 14,763 tons in 1959.

EXPORT TRADE in fishery products through July showed gains compared to last year, in canned mackerel, canned and frozen shrimp, miscellaneous canned fish (mostly anchovies), and frozen salmon. Declines were noted in shipments of canned salmon, canned sardines, canned squid, and fresh or frozen miscellaneous fish (mostly fresh-water).

RECEIPTS of sardines canned not in oil through July were 5 million pounds higher than the imports during the same period in 1959, reflecting the low inventory position of the U. S. packed California sardines. The Union of South Africa was the principal supplier.

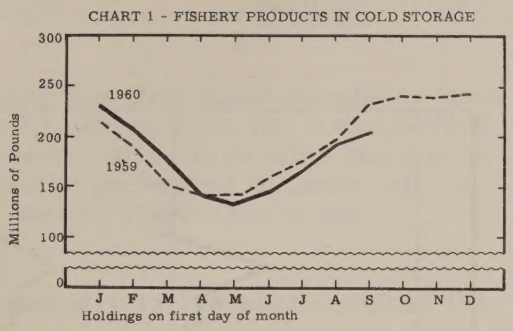
MENHADEN LANDINGS through August, 1960 amounted to 1,491 million pounds compared with 1,528 million pounds for the same period last year. Indications are that the fish are plentiful and if normal fishing effort had been spent, the 1960 production would have exceeded last year's record catch by a considerable amount.

Fishery Products in Cold-Storage

September 1

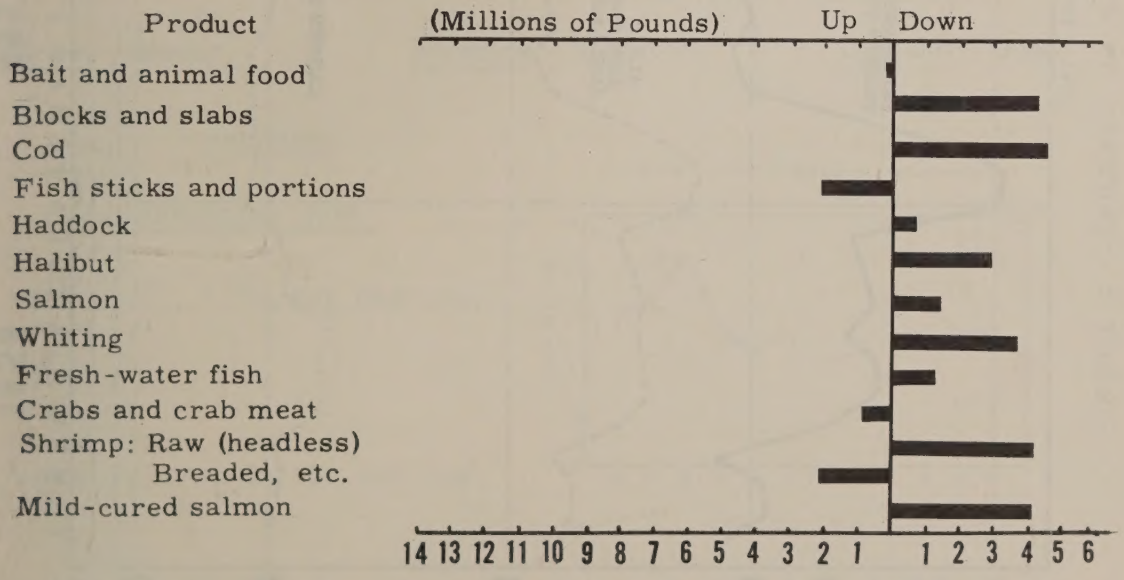
1960.....207,479,000 Lbs.

1959.....230,052,000 Lbs.



Cold-storage holdings of fish and shellfish on September 1, 1960 were about 10 percent lower than those on the same date in 1959 (Chart 1), but about 11 percent higher than the holdings on September 1, 1958. Bait and animal food comprised 7 percent of these holdings in 1960, about 6 percent in 1959 and almost 5 percent in 1958. The following chart indicates inventory changes for certain species.

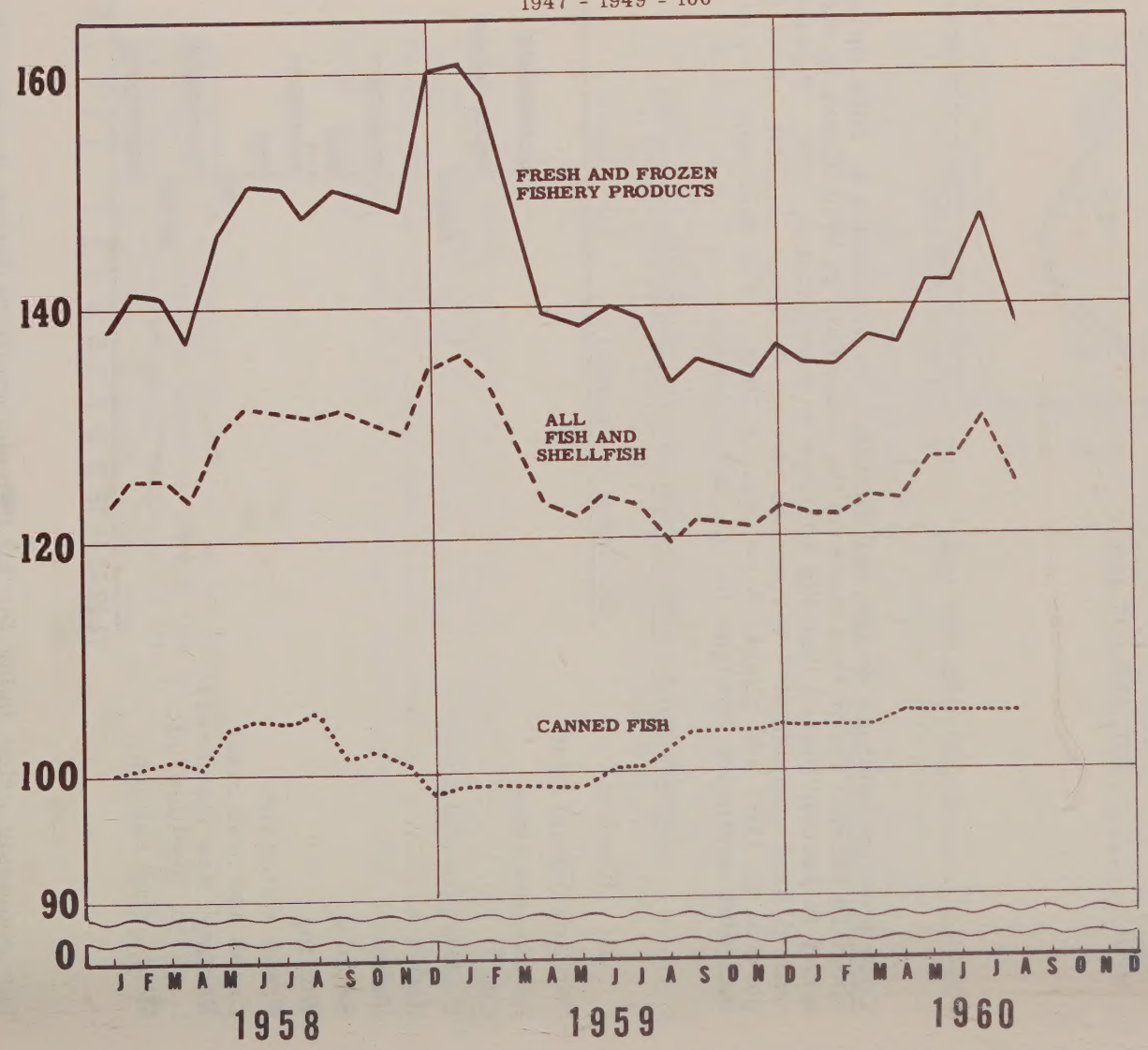
September 1, 1960 Compared With September 1, 1959



The wholesale price index for all fish and shellfish during August 1960 was 124.4, an increase of 3.8 percent compared with August 1959. Fresh and frozen fishery products had an index increase of 4.3 percent while the index for canned fish was up 2.7 percent (Chart 2).

CHART 2 - INDEXES OF WHOLESALE FISH PRICES

1947 - 1949 = 100


160
140
120
100
90
0
FRESH AND FROZEN FISHERY PRODUCTS
ALL FISH AND SHELLFISH
CANNED FISH
J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D
1958
1959
1960

SPECIFIC MARKETING SITUATIONS

Salt-water Fish

ANCHOVIES, CANNED

Market - Firm Supplies - Light Demand - Light

Landings of anchovies in California during the first eight months of this year were about 1,100 tons compared with 1,000 tons in the same period of 1959. If a demand for canned anchovies were to develop during the fourth quarter, production could be greatly increased because of the plentiful supply of anchovies along the central California coast.

Pack - The pack of canned anchovies continues very low since most of the production is processed for pet food.

Prices are expected to remain firm because of the very small pack this year.

FISH STICKS AND PORTIONS

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

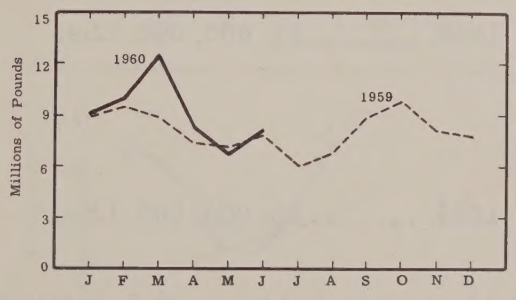
Production

January - June

1960.....54,701,000 Lbs.

1959.....49,387,000 Lbs.

CHART 3 - PRODUCTION OF FISH STICKS AND PORTIONS



Production of fish sticks and portions during the first half of 1960 was 11 percent higher than that during the same period in 1959 (Chart 3). Fish stick production amounted to 32.6 million pounds, an increase of 2 percent compared with the corresponding period of the previous year, whereas portions increased 26 percent with a production of 22.1 million pounds.

Cold-Storage Holdings

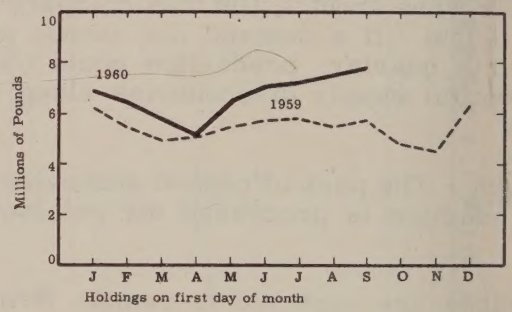
Fish Sticks and Portions

September 1

1960.....7,762,000 Lbs.

1959.....5,704,000 Lbs.

CHART 4 - FISH STICKS AND PORTIONS IN COLD STORAGE



Cold-Storage Holdings

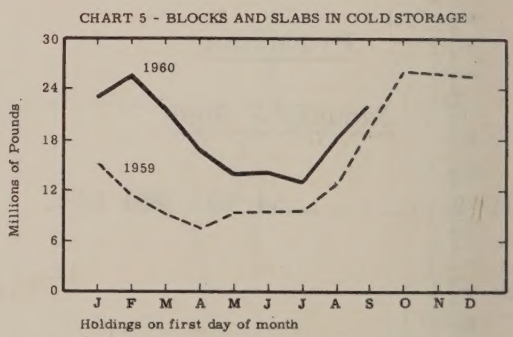
Blocks and Slabs

September 1

1960.....21,800,000 Lbs.

1959.....26,004,000 Lbs.

CHART 5 - BLOCKS AND SLABS IN COLD STORAGE



Cold-storage holdings of fish sticks and portions on September 1 were 36 percent higher than those a year earlier (Chart 4), while the holdings of blocks and slabs were down 16 percent (Chart 5).

Prices of fish sticks and portions are expected to remain steady while sales probably will continue to increase.

FLOUNDER AND SOLE

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

Massachusetts Landings

January - July

1960.....27,654,000 Lbs.

1959.....24,937,000 Lbs.

Landings of flounder and sole in Massachusetts during the first seven months of 1960 were 11 percent higher than in the comparable 1959 period. Moderate supplies are expected during the fourth quarter.

Cold-Storage Holdings

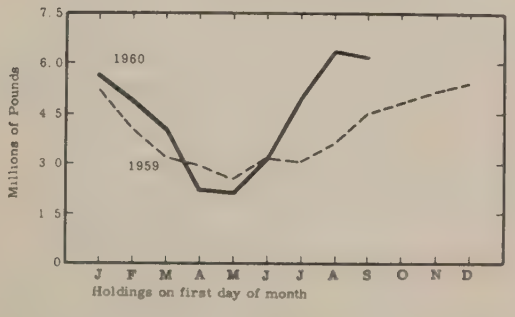
September 1

(Fillets)

1960.....~~48,215,000~~ 5,847,000 Lbs.

1959.....~~57,211,000~~ 4,589,000 Lbs.

CHART 6 - FLOUNDER AND SOLE FILLETS IN COLD STORAGE



Cold-storage holdings of flounder and sole fillets on September 1 were ~~16~~ 27 percent ~~lower~~ higher than those a year earlier (Chart 6).

FLOUNDER AND SOLE (Cont.)

Imports

January - July

(Fillets)

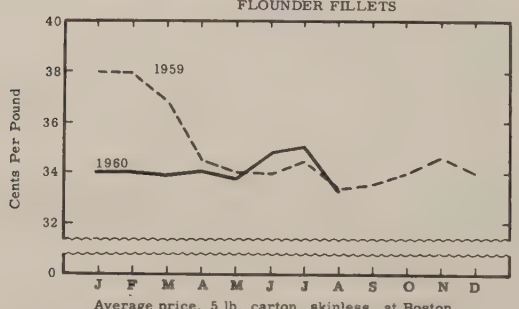
1960.....10,477,000 Lbs.

1959..... 7,219,000 Lbs.

Imports of flounder and sole fillets through July were 45 percent higher than those in a similar period in 1959, and are expected to continue high during the last quarter of 1960.

Prices are expected to remain steady after having experienced a rise during mid-year (Chart 7).

CHART 7 - WHOLESALE PRICES OF YELLOWTAIL FLOUNDER FILLETS



Average price, 5 lb. carton, skinless, at Boston

GROUNDFISH FILLETS, INCLUDING OCEAN PERCH

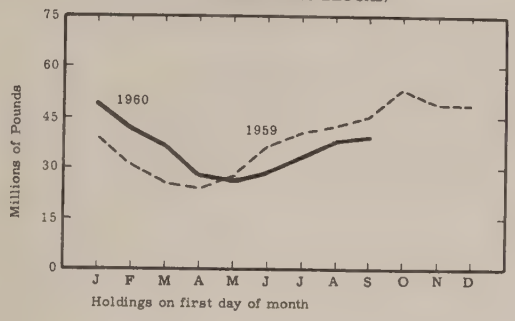
Cold-Storage Holdings

September 1

1960.....38,546,000 Lbs.

1959.....46,030,000 Lbs.

CHART 8 - GROUNDFISH FILLETS IN COLD STORAGE
(EXCLUDING BLOCKS)



Groundfish fillets in cold-storage on September 1 were 16 percent lower than the higher than normal stocks a year earlier (Chart 8). Charts and tables on the following pages indicate the inventory changes by species.

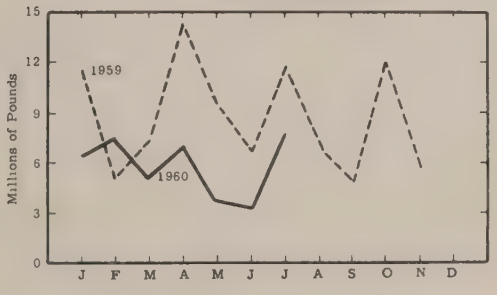
Imports

January - July

1960.....40,576,000 Lbs.

1959.....66,312,000 Lbs.

CHART 9 - IMPORTS OF GROUNDFISH FILLETS
(EXCLUDING BLOCKS)



Imports of groundfish fillets, excluding blocks, during the first seven months of 1960 were 39 percent lower than those in the corresponding period of 1959 (Chart 9). Imports of blocks during this period were 29 percent higher than last year.

COD FILLETS

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

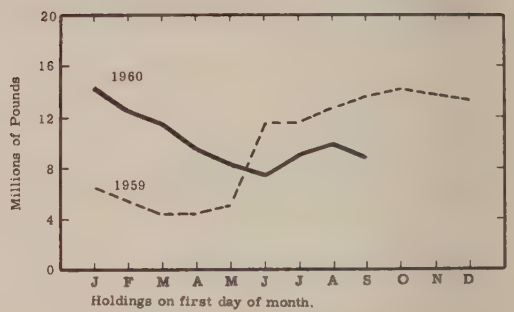
Cold-Storage Holdings

September 1

1960..... 8,748,000 Lbs.

1959.....13,145,000 Lbs.

CHART 10 - COD FILLETS IN COLD STORAGE



Holdings on first day of month.

Cold-storage holdings of cod fillets on September 1 were 33 percent lower than the high inventory on the same date in 1959 (Chart 10). Landings are expected to be light during the fourth quarter.

Imports

January - July

1960.....18,048,000 Lbs.

1959.....36,695,000 Lbs.

Imports of cod fillets during the first seven months of 1960 declined considerably from those during the same period in 1959 and were down about 51 percent. Continued substantial decreases were noted particularly in the imports from Iceland, Norway, and Denmark.

HADDOCK FILLETS

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

Cold-Storage Holdings

September 1

1960.....9,394,000 Lbs.

1959.....9,988,000 Lbs.

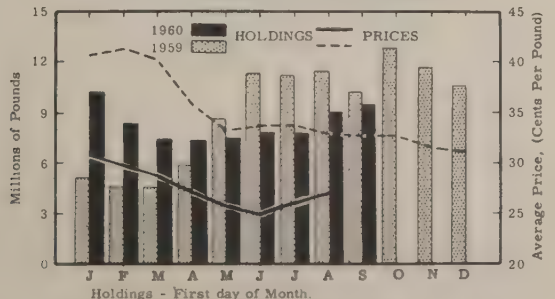
Cold-storage holdings of haddock fillets on September 1 were 6 percent lower than those on the comparable date in 1959 (Chart 11).

Landings are expected to decrease during the late fall and winter months.

Imports of haddock fillets through July, 1960 amounted to 14.7 million pounds compared with 19.9 million pounds during the same period in 1959. Fourth quarter imports will not be as high as those last year.

Prices of haddock fillets, which hit their low level in mid-year, have begun to strengthen but are still about 17 percent below last year. Some further strengthening is expected (Chart 11).

CHART 11 - COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF HADDOCK FILLETS



Holdings - First day of Month.
Prices - 1-lb. small, skins on, at Boston.

OCEAN PERCH FILLETS

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Moderate

Cold-Storage Holdings

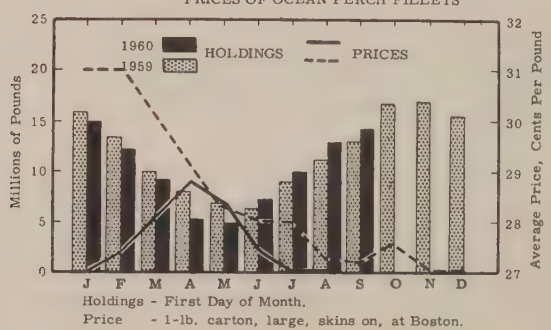
September 1

1960.....14,237,000 Lbs.

1959.....14,907,000 Lbs.

Cold-storage holdings of ocean perch fillets on September 1 were 4 percent lower than those a year earlier (Chart 12). No appreciable build-up in stocks is expected during the fourth quarter.

CHART 12 - COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF OCEAN PERCH FILLETS



Holdings - First Day of Month.
Price - 1-lb. carton, large, skins on, at Boston.

Prices which reached a peak during the second quarter have since leveled off and are about the same as last year (Chart 12). They should remain steady during the fourth quarter.

OCEAN PERCH FILLETS (Cont.)

Imports

January - July

1960.....7,791,000 Lbs.

1959.....9,685,000 Lbs.

Imports of ocean perch fillets during the first seven months of 1960 were about 20 percent lower than those in the comparable 1959 period. There were higher imports of this species from Canada during the period, but those from Iceland, West Germany, and other countries were lower.

Landings

January - July

Maine and Massachusetts

1960.....86,000,000 Lbs.

1959.....78,423,000 Lbs.

Landings of ocean perch in Maine and Massachusetts through July were 11 percent higher than those during the first half of 1959. Generally, landings should be light during the fourth quarter.

HALIBUT

Market - Steady Supplies - Liberal Demand - Good

Landings of halibut from all Pacific areas during the first eight months of 1960 reached 64.8 million pounds, compared with 66.0 million pounds during the same months last year. Although this represents a slight decline, it is expected that total 1960 landings of halibut will equal those of 1959.

Cold-Storage Holdings

September 1

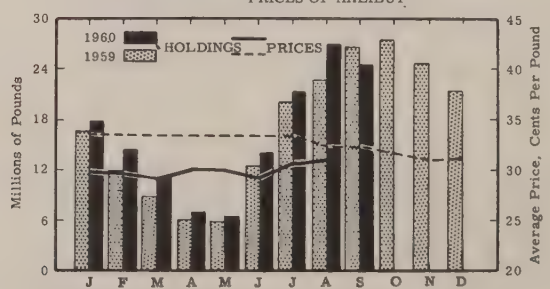
1960.....24,278,000 Lbs.

1959.....27,127,000 Lbs.

Cold-storage holdings of halibut on September 1 were 11 percent lower than those on the same date last year (Chart 13).

Wholesale prices of frozen halibut at New York in August were about 4 percent lower than last year (Chart 13). However, some firming is possible during the last quarter.

CHART 13 - COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF HALIBUT



Holdings - First Day of Month.
Price - Western dressed, 20-80 lbs., frozen, at New York

MACKEREL, CANNED

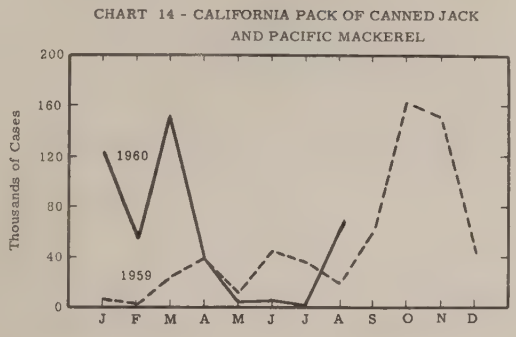
Market - Weak Supplies - Liberal Demand - Slow

Pack of Pacific and Jack Mackerel

January - August

1960.....446,206 Std. Cases

1959.....176,991 Std. Cases



The pack of California canned mackerel through August, 1960 was about 152 percent larger than the 1959 pack for the same period (Chart 14). This is notable because the cannery mackerel fleet was not operating for about four months during this period. Production of mackerel during the fourth quarter is expected to be light.

SABLEFISH

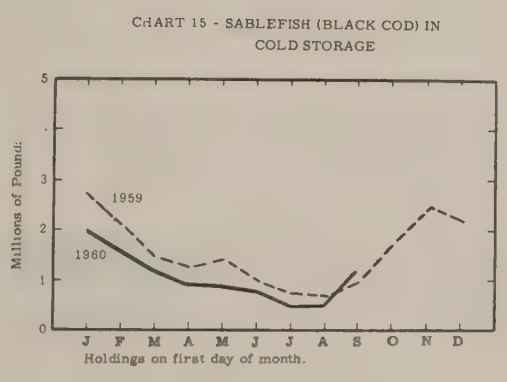
Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

Cold-Storage Holdings

September 1

1960.....1,190,000 Lbs.

1959.....1,146,000 Lbs.



Cold-storage holdings of sablefish on September 1 were 4 percent higher than on the same date in 1959 (Chart 15).

Prices are higher than this time last year and should continue strong during the remainder of the year.

SALMON, FRESH AND FROZEN

Market - Steady Supplies - Light Demand - Moderate

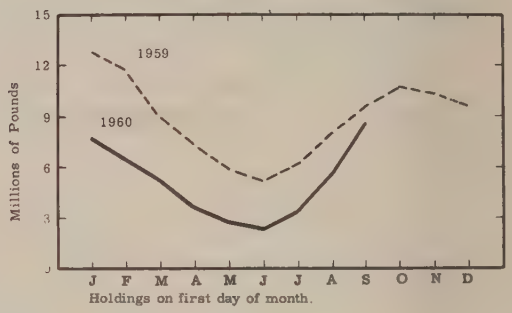
Cold-Storage Holdings

September 1

1960.....8,512,000 Lbs.

1959.....9,789,000 Lbs.

CHART 16 - SALMON IN COLD STORAGE



Holdings on first day of month.

Cold-storage holdings of frozen salmon on September 1 were 13 percent lower than those on September 1, 1959 (Chart 16).

Imports, January - July

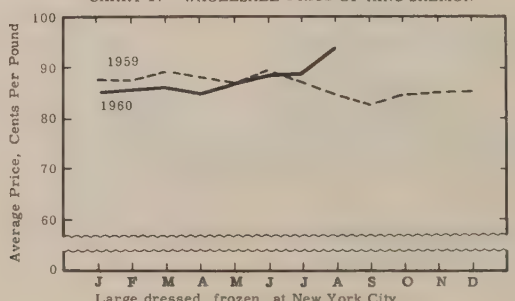
1960.....3,975,000 Lbs.

1959.....7,740,000 Lbs.

Imports of frozen salmon during the first seven months of 1960 were about one-half of those during the same 1959 period. Canada is the principal supplier.

Prices continue to rise and since the shortage of salmon will be acutely felt in the fourth quarter, further price advances are expected (Chart 17).

CHART 17 - WHOLESALE PRICE OF KING SALMON



Large dressed, frozen, at New York City.

SALMON, MILD-CURED

Market - Steady Supplies - Light Demand - Good

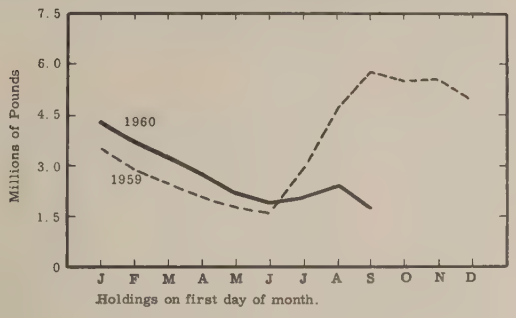
Cold-Storage Holdings

September 1

1960.....1,707,000 Lbs.

1959.....5,807,000 Lbs.

CHART 18 - MILD-CURED SALMON IN COLD STORAGE



Holdings on first day of month.

Cold-storage holdings of mild-cured salmon on September 1 were 71 percent lower than those on the same date in 1959 (Chart 18).

Production of king salmon on the Pacific Coast has been below normal; one of the poorest seasons on record.

Prices will continue very high during the fourth quarter.

SALMON, CANNED

Market - Active Supplies - Light-to-Moderate Demand - Active

Alaska Pack

(Preliminary)

1960.....2,530,000 Std. Cases

1959.....1,778,000 Std. Cases

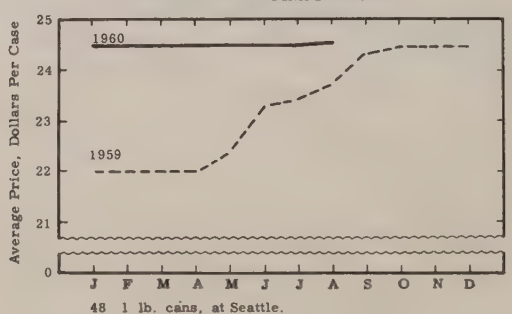
The pack of canned salmon in Alaska for the 1960 season was 42 percent higher than that in 1959, which was the lowest since 1900. The 1960 pack of red salmon was more than double that of last year and represented about 47 percent of the current pack, but there is a shortage of pinks and chums.

Imports of canned salmon during the first seven months of this year were 12.8 million pounds, about 33 percent lower than receipts during the same period in 1959. Imports from Japan this year are expected to be considerably lower than in 1959.

Exports of canned salmon through July, 1960 were 2.8 million pounds compared with 4.7 million pounds in the corresponding period last year. There was a considerable decline in shipments to the Philippines and "other countries".

Wholesale prices of canned pink salmon, which remained high and unchanged since the beginning of the third quarter in 1959, will probably advance during the last quarter of this year (Chart 19).

CHART 19 - WHOLESALE PRICE OF CANNED PINK SALMON



48 1 lb. cans, at Seattle.

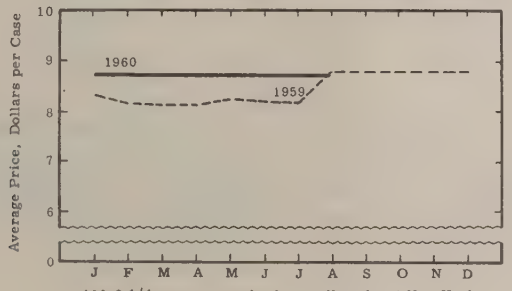
SARDINES, (MAINE)

Market - Steady Supplies - Light-to-Moderate Demand - Moderate

Pack - The pack of canned Maine sardines for the 1960 season through September 3 was 1,380,000 standard cases. During the same period in 1959, the pack amounted to about 1,310,000 standard cases.

Prices - Wholesale prices have continued steady since the third quarter of 1959, and will remain so during this quarter (Chart 20).

CHART 20 - WHOLESALE PRICE OF MAINE SARDINES



100-3 1/4 ounce cans, keyless, oil pack, at New York

SARDINES, (CALIFORNIA)

Market - Steady Supplies - Light Demand - Good

Landings - Through the end of September, the sardine catch of 13,500 tons was well ahead of the 1959 season to the same period, when the San Pedro fleet was tied up during September, but was 27,000 tons less than the 1958 season.

Prices are expected to remain steady during the fourth quarter.

Exports of sardines, canned not-in-oil, through July 1960 was 44 percent lower than in the same period last year. Reduced shipments to the Philippines and Cuba accounted for most of the decrease.

SARDINES, CANNED

Imports of Sardines Not-in-Oil

January - July

1960..... 5,190,000 Lbs.

1959..... 257,000 Lbs.

Imports of sardines, canned not-in-oil, during the first seven months of 1960 were almost 5 million pounds higher than those imported during a similar period last year. The total imported for the entire year 1959 was only about 1 million pounds.

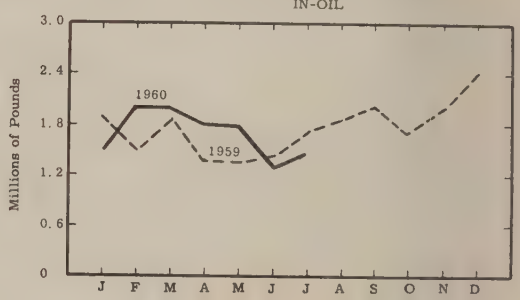
Imports of Sardines in Oil

January - July

1960..... 11,800,000 Lbs.

1959..... 11,274,000 Lbs.

CHART 21 - IMPORTS OF SARDINES CANNED IN-OIL



Imports of sardines, canned in oil, through July, 1960 were 5 percent higher compared with the receipts during the same period in 1959 (Chart 21). Norway and Portugal are the principal suppliers of this commodity. Imports are expected to continue heavy during the fourth quarter.

SWORDFISH

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

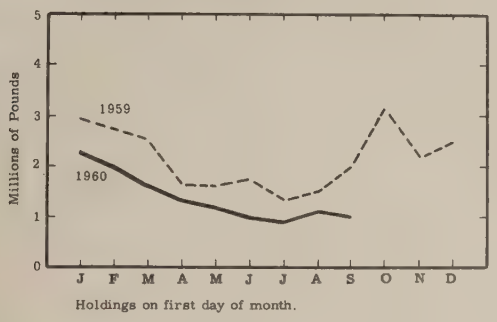
Cold-Storage Holdings

September 1

1960..... 955,000 Lbs.

1959.....1,889,000 Lbs.

CHART 22 - SWORDFISH IN COLD STORAGE



Cold-storage holdings of swordfish on September 1 were 49 percent lower than those on the same date last year (Chart 22). A seasonal decline on swordfish production occurs during the fourth quarter.

Imports of frozen swordfish during January-July, 1960 were 9.9 million pounds compared with 9.5 million pounds during the same period in 1959. Receipts of fresh swordfish during this period in 1960 were 1 million pounds, while in 1959 they were 2.3 million pounds.

Prices should remain steady.

TUNA, CANNED

Market - Steady Supplies - Liberal Demand - Good

Cannery Receipts of Fresh and Frozen Tuna

California

January - August

(In Tons)

	Imports	Domestic	Total
1960	48,060	103,487	151,547
1959	55,593	104,432	160,025

Tuna cannery receipts in California during the first eight months of 1960 were about 5 percent lower than those a year earlier. Imports, which accounted for 32 percent of the total cannery receipts, were about 14 percent lower than last year. Domestic landings were also lower, but only by a small percentage.

Imports, Frozen Tuna

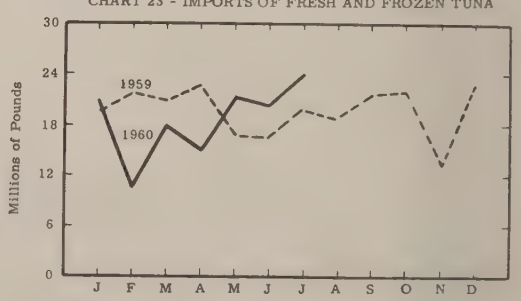
(All U. S. Ports)

January - July

1960.....130,840,000 Lbs.

1959.....138,151,000 Lbs.

CHART 23 - IMPORTS OF FRESH AND FROZEN TUNA



Imports of frozen tuna at all United States' ports through July, 1960 were about 5 percent lower than those during the same 1959 period (Chart 23). Albacore receipts were 57 percent higher than last year, but imports of other tuna, particularly yellowfin, were 19 percent lower.

Receipts of frozen loins and discs of tuna during the first seven months of this year were the same as last year. About 4.6 million pounds were imported.

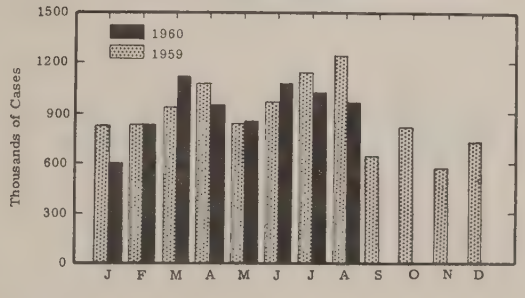
California Pack of Canned Tuna

January - August

1960.....7,525,000 Std. Cases

1959.....7,946,000 Std. Cases

CHART 24 - CALIFORNIA CANNED TUNA PACK



Pack - The California pack of canned tuna during the first eight months of 1960 was 5 percent lower than that last year in the same period (Chart 24). The decrease is in light meat tuna pack because of sharply reduced imports of frozen yellowfin from Japan. Albacore pack, however, is higher.

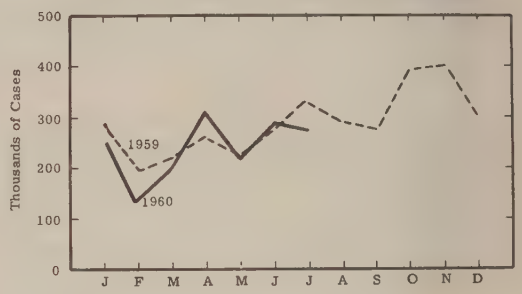
Imports of Canned Tuna and Bonito

January - July

1960.....1,697,000 Std. Cases

1959.....1,821,000 Std. Cases

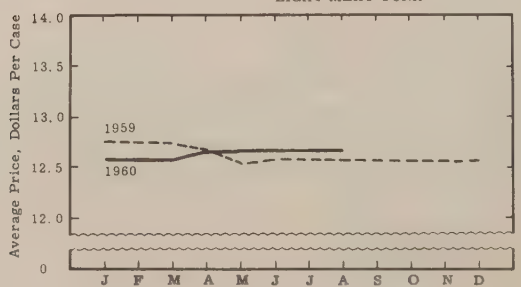
CHART 25 - IMPORTS OF CANNED TUNA AND BONITO



Imports of canned tuna and bonito through July, 1960 were 7 percent lower than those in the comparable period last year (Chart 25). Receipts of tuna canned in oil were 23 percent higher than last year, but imports of tuna canned in brine were almost 3 percent lower. Imports of canned bonito were also lower in this period than during the first seven months of 1959.

Wholesale prices, which have remained steady during the spring and summer months, could experience a slight decline in the fourth quarter (Chart 26).

CHART 26 - WHOLESALE PRICE OF CANNED LIGHT MEAT TUNA



Solid pack, 48-7 ounce cans, at Los Angeles.
Average of weekly quotations for Advertised Brands and Other Packers' Labels.

WHITING

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

Landings

January - July

(Massachusetts)

1960.....33,613,000 Lbs.

1959.....37,482,000 Lbs.

Landings of whiting in Massachusetts during the first seven months of 1960 were 15 percent lower than those in a similar period last year. There will be a decline in landings during the fourth quarter.

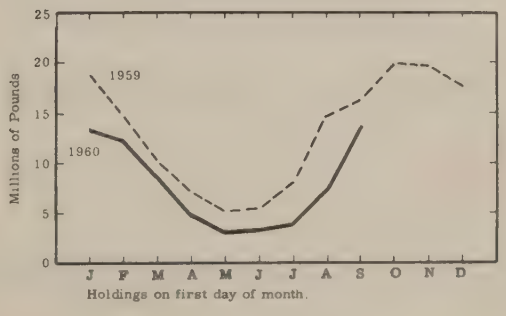
Cold-Storage Holdings

September 1

1960.....13,379,000 Lbs.

1959.....16,943,000 Lbs.

CHART 27 - WHITING IN COLD STORAGE



Cold-storage holdings of whiting on September 1 were 21 percent lower than those on the same date last year (Chart 27).

Prices will probably remain steady during this quarter.

CLAMS, FRESH

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

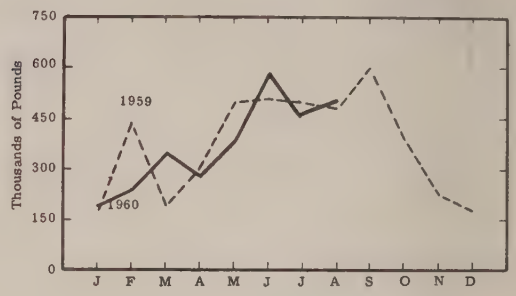
Maryland Soft Clams

Production, January - August

1960.....2,975,000 Lbs.

1959.....3,089,000 Lbs.

CHART 28 - PRODUCTION OF MARYLAND SOFT CLAMS



Production of soft clams in Maryland during January-August of this year was about 4 percent lower than that in the same period in 1959 (Chart 28). Soft clam production will decline during the fourth quarter.

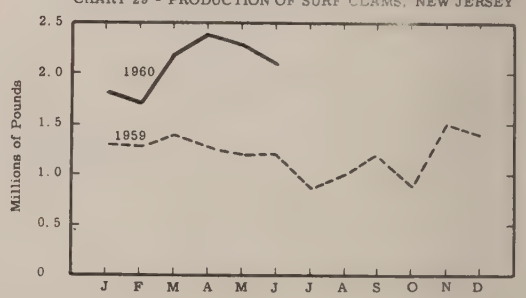
New Jersey Surf Clams

Production, January - June

1960.....12,412,000 Lbs.

1959..... 7,926,000 Lbs.

CHART 29 - PRODUCTION OF SURF CLAMS, NEW JERSEY



Production - During the first half of 1960, there was a 57 percent increase in the production of surf clams compared with that in the first six months last year (Chart 29).

Prices should remain steady during this quarter.

CRABS AND CRAB MEAT, FRESH AND FROZEN

Market - Firm Supplies - Moderate Demand - Active

Production of crabs along the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts is expected to be good during this quarter. Dungeness crabs should also be in better supply on the Pacific Coast toward the end of the fourth quarter.

Cold-Storage Holdings

September 1

1960.....1,793,000 Lbs.

1959..... 958,000 Lbs.

Cold-storage holdings of crabs and crab meat on September 1 were 87 percent higher than those on the same date last year.

Prices will probably remain high and firm during this quarter.

CRABS AND CRAB MEAT, CANNED

Pack - The pack of canned crab meat in the Gulf States through the middle of September this year amounted to 11,068 standard cases (48 - 6 1/2 oz. cans) compared with 3,715 standard cases packed in the same period in 1959.

CRABS AND CRAB MEAT, CANNED (Cont.)

Imports

January - July

1960.....1,512,000 Lbs.

1959.....4,754,000 Lbs.

Imports of canned crab meat continue to drop, and during the first seven months of 1960 they were 68 percent below the receipts during the same period last year.

Prices will continue high.

LOBSTERS, NORTHERN

Market - Firm Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

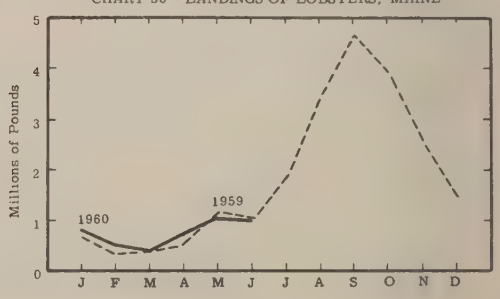
Maine Landings

January - June

1960.....4,510,000 Lbs.

1959.....4,372,000 Lbs.

CHART 30 - LANDINGS OF LOBSTERS, MAINE



Landings of lobsters in Maine during the first half of 1960 were only 3 percent higher than those in the first six months of 1959 (Chart 30). A steady decline in landings is expected in this quarter.

LOBSTERS, NORTHERN (Cont.)

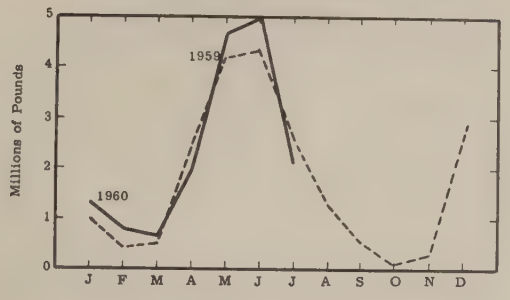
Imports from Canada

January - July

1960.....16,664,000 Lbs.

1959.....15,572,000 Lbs.

CHART 31 - IMPORTS OF LOBSTERS (CANADA)



Imports of lobsters from Canada through July were 7 percent higher than those in the same period in 1959 (Chart 31). Receipts of lobsters from Canada should increase during the fourth quarter.

Prices should remain steady and high.

LOBSTERS, SPINY

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

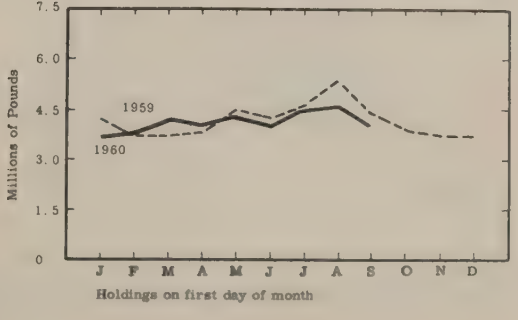
Cold-Storage Holdings

September 1

1960.....3,954,000 Lbs.

1959.....4,497,000 Lbs.

CHART 32 - SPINY LOBSTERS IN COLD STORAGE



Cold-storage holdings of spiny lobsters on September 1, 1960 were 12 percent lower than a year earlier (Chart 32).

LOBSTERS, SPINY (Cont.)

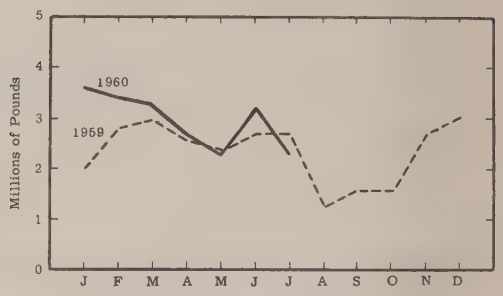
Imports

January - July

1960.....20,793,000 Lbs.

1959.....18,394,000 Lbs.

CHART 33 - IMPORTS OF SPINY LOBSTERS



Imports of spiny lobsters increased 13 percent during the first seven months of 1960 compared with the similar period in 1959. These imports should increase during the fourth quarter (Chart 33).

OYSTERS, FRESH-SHUCKED

Market - Firm Supplies - Moderate Demand - Active

Production will increase as the quarter progresses and cooler weather arrives. Total production should be about the same as last year.

Prices are expected to remain steady and high.

OYSTERS, CANNED

Market - Firm Supplies - Light Demand - Good

Production - Very little oyster canning is done during the last quarter. The 1959-60 season pack was 15 percent higher than the 1958-59 pack.

Prices are expected to remain firm.

SCALLOPS, SEA

Market - Steady Supplies - Liberal Demand - Good

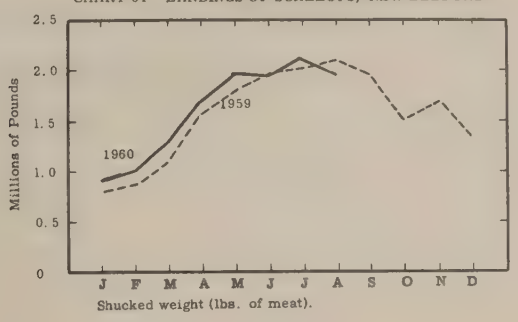
New Bedford Landings

January - August

1960.....12,969,000 Lbs.

1959.....12,295,000 Lbs.

CHART 34 - LANDINGS OF SCALLOPS, NEW BEDFORD



Shucked weight (lbs. of meat).

Landings of sea scallops during the first eight months of 1960 were more than 5 percent higher than those during the same period last year (Chart 34).

Imports of sea scallops through July were 81 percent higher than those in the corresponding period in 1959. A total of 3.9 million pounds of scallops were received in this period, mostly from Canada. Receipts will continue high.

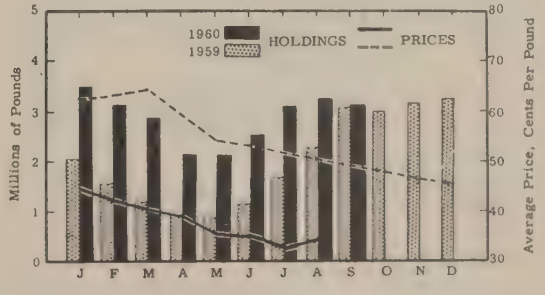
Cold-Storage Holdings

September 1

1960.....3,139,000 Lbs.

1959.....3,146,000 Lbs.

CHART 35 - COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF SCALLOPS



Holdings - First Day of Month.
Price - Domestic 5-lb. carton, at Boston

Cold-storage holdings of sea scallops on September 1, 1960, were about the same as those a year earlier (Chart 35).

Wholesale prices of scallops began a steady decline in early 1959 which ended in July, 1960 (Chart 35). Some strengthening began in August as a result of a crash promotion program. Continued strengthening is expected through the fourth quarter.

SHRIMP, FRESH AND FROZEN

Market - Steady Supplies - Liberal Demand - Good

Landings

South Atlantic and Gulf Coast States

January - August

Headless

1960.....78,566,000 Lbs.

1959.....71,600,000 Lbs.

Landings of shrimp in the South Atlantic and Gulf Coast States through August, 1960 were about 10 percent higher than those in the same period last year. Louisiana and Texas produced about 22.2 and 26.7 million pounds respectively during this period.

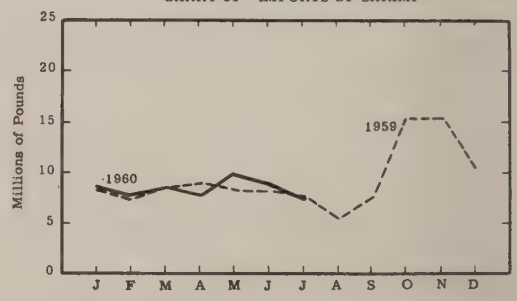
Imports

January - July

1960.....58,684,000 Lbs.

1959.....57,687,000 Lbs.

CHART 36 - IMPORTS OF SHRIMP



Imports of frozen shrimp during the first seven months of 1960 were 2 percent higher than those through July last year (Chart 36). Total shrimp imports established a record at 106.6 million pounds in 1959. It is expected that receipts will continue high during the fourth quarter.

Cold-Storage Holdings

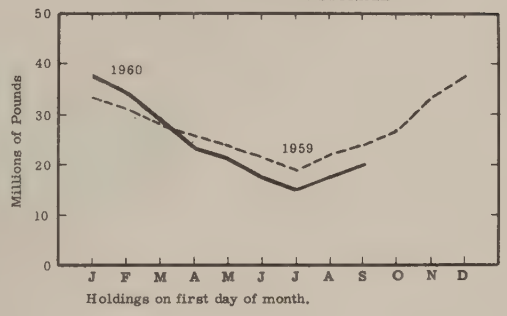
September 1

(Raw Headless)

1960.....19,713,000 Lbs.

1959.....23,780,000 Lbs.

CHART 37 - RAW HEADLESS SHRIMP IN COLD STORAGE



Cold-Storage Holdings

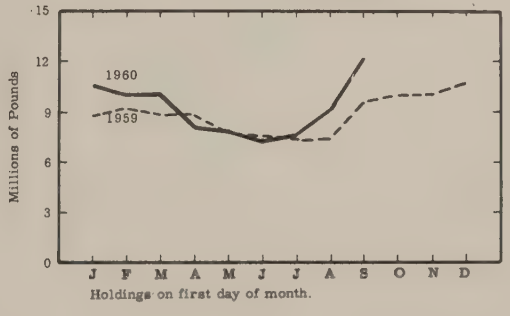
September 1

(All Others)

1960.....12,104,000 Lbs.

1959..... 9,907,000 Lbs.

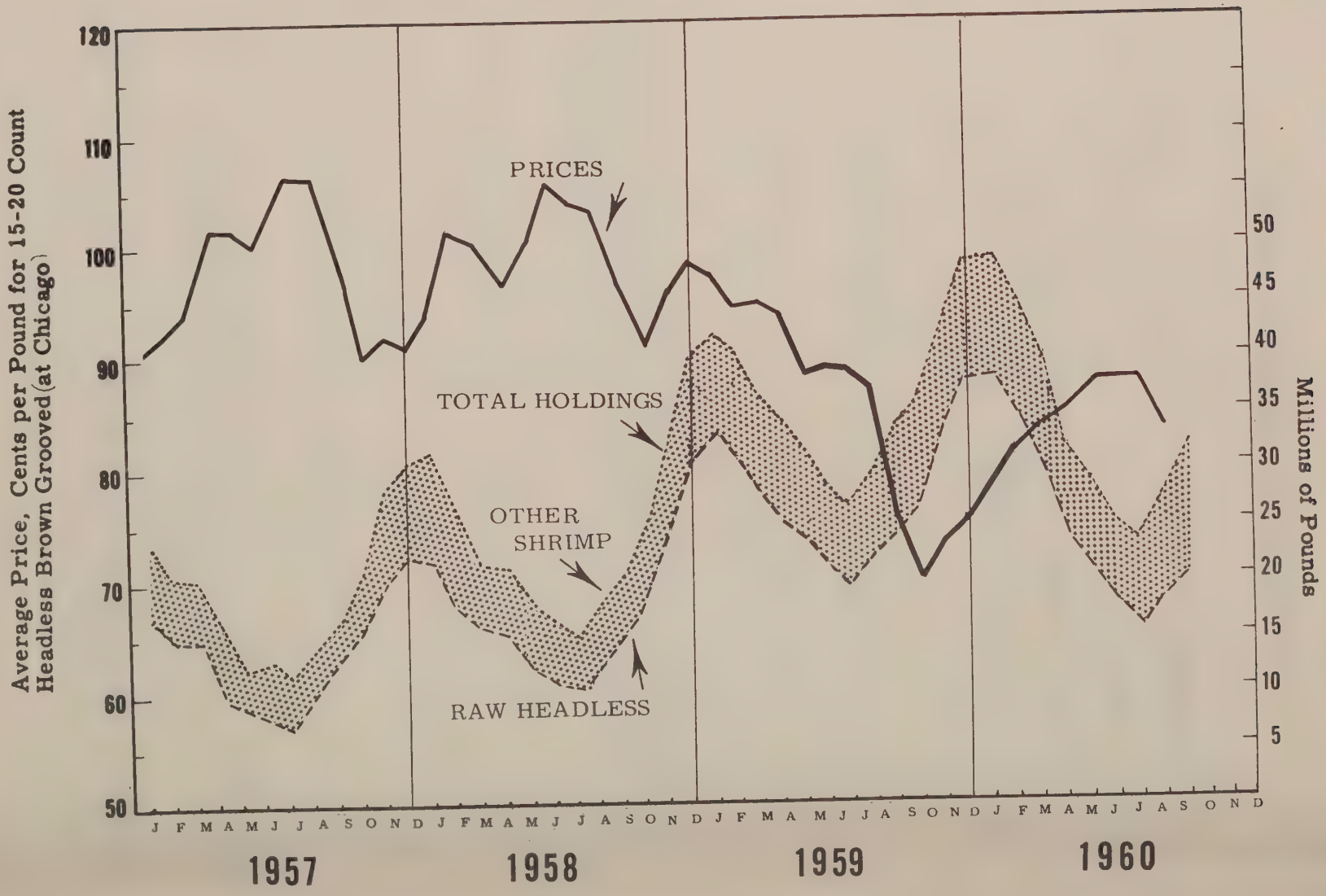
CHART 38 - ALL OTHER (PROCESSED) SHRIMP IN COLD STORAGE



Cold-storage holdings of raw headless shrimp on September 1 were 17 percent below those a year earlier (Chart 37), but holdings of other shrimp, including breaded, were 22 percent higher (Chart 38).

Wholesale prices weakened slightly during August but were still about 4 percent lower than those a year earlier.

CHART 39 - SHRIMP IN COLD STORAGE AND WHOLESALE PRICES



SHRIMP, CANNED

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

Pack

Gulf States

Season Pack

August 1959 - July 31, 1960.....808,275 Std. Cases

August 1958 - July 31, 1959.....864,037 Std. Cases

Pack of canned shrimp in the Gulf States for the 1959/60 season was almost 7 percent lower than that in the previous season. Production will probably continue at a higher rate during the fourth quarter this year than it did last year.

Prices are expected to continue high and firm during this quarter.

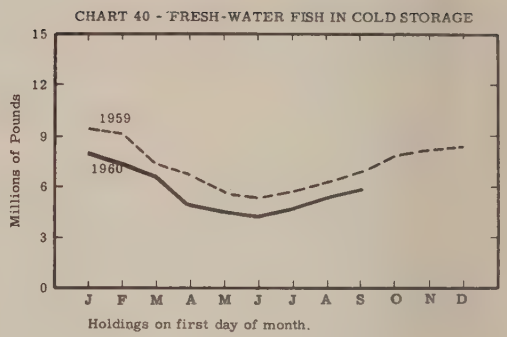
Fresh-water Fish

Cold-Storage Holdings

September 1

(United States)

1960.....5,825,000 Lbs.



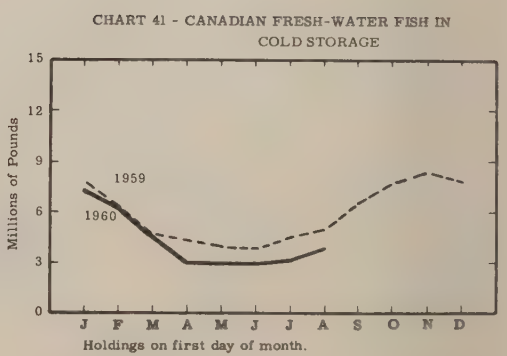
1959.....6,949,000 Lbs.

Cold-Storage Holdings

August 1

(Canada)

1960.....3,921,000 Lbs.



1959.....5,235,000 Lbs.

Cold-storage holdings of fresh-water fish in the United States on September 1 were 16 percent lower than those on the same date last year (Chart 40). Canadian holdings of fresh-water fish on August 1 were 25 percent lower than those last year (Chart 41). Fresh-water fish holdings tend to build-up during the fourth quarter.

FRESH-WATER FISH (Cont.)

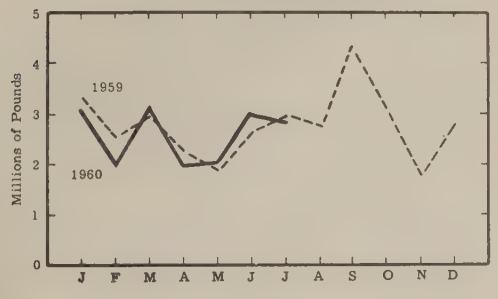
Fish Imports

January - July

1960.....15,338,000 Lbs.

1959.....15,807,000 Lbs.

CHART 42 - IMPORTS OF FRESH-WATER FISH
(CANADA)
(Does not include fillets)



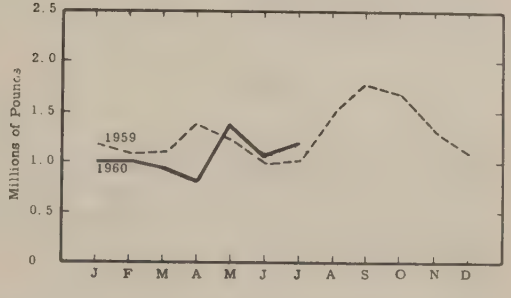
Fillet Imports

January - July

1960.....7,398,000 Lbs.

1959.....8,147,000 Lbs.

CHART 43 - IMPORTS OF FRESH-WATER FISH
FILLETS (CANADA)



Imports of fresh-water fish, other than fillets, from Canada, during the first seven months of 1960 were 3 percent lower than the receipts during the same period in 1959 (Chart 42). Imports of fresh-water fillets were about 9 percent lower (Chart 43).

Prices should remain firm.

FISH OIL

Market - Steady Supplies - Liberal Demand - Good

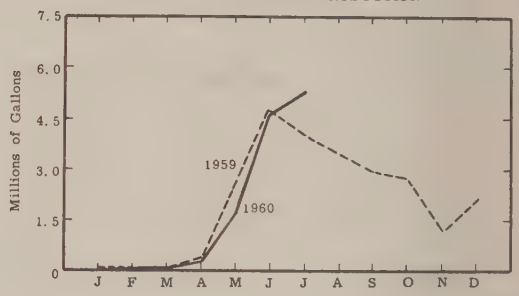
Production

January - July

1960.....12,571,901 Gals.

1959.....12,610,129 Gals.

CHART 44 - FISH OIL PRODUCTION



Production of fish oil through July, 1960 was only slightly below that in the first seven months of 1959 (Chart 44). Some decline is expected during the fourth quarter.

Exports, January - July

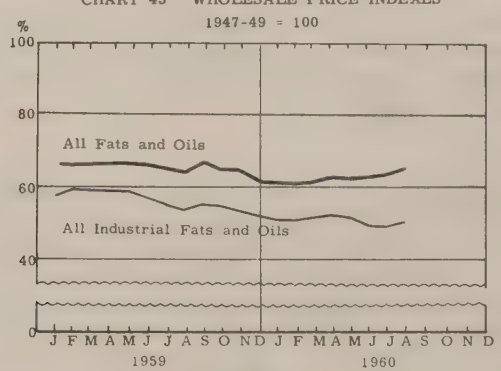
1960.....93,423,000 Lbs.

1959.....77,632,000 Lbs.

Exports of fish oils through July were 20 percent larger than those in the same 1959 period. Substantial increases in shipments to Sweden and Norway more than offset declines in exports to Canada, Belgium, and West Germany.

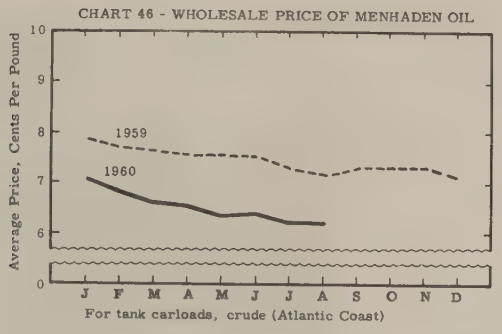
Wholesale price index for all fats and oils in August, 1960 was 65.2, compared with 64.8 in August last year. The index for all industrial fats and oils was 50.3, about 7 percent below that of August, 1959 (Chart 45).

CHART 45 WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES



FISH OIL (Cont.)

Wholesale price of menhaden oil in August was 6.22 cents per pound, about 13 percent lower than that a year earlier (Chart 46). Price will probably remain steady during the fourth quarter.



FISH MEAL

Market - Unsettled Supplies - Liberal Demand - Light

Production

January - July

1960.....129,720 Tons

1959.....144,770 Tons

Production of fish meal through July, 1960 was about 10 percent below that through the same period last year. There will be a decline in fish meal production in the fourth quarter.

FISH MEAL (Cont.)

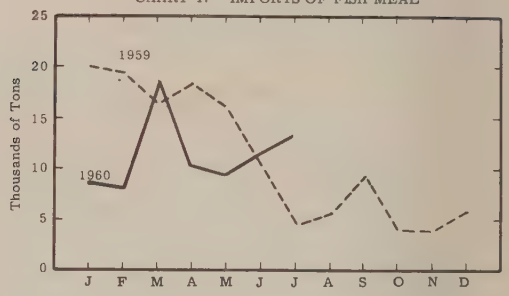
Imports

January - July

1960..... 79,506 Tons

1959.....105,004 Tons

CHART 47 - IMPORTS OF FISH MEAL



Imports of fish meal during the first seven months of this year were 24 percent below those in the same period in 1959 (Chart 47). Angola, which had shipped 20.7 million tons through July of 1959, did not export any fish meal to the United States in 1960, thus accounting for most of the decrease in total imports.

CHART 48 - WHOLESALE FEEDSTUFF PRICE INDEX
1947-49=100

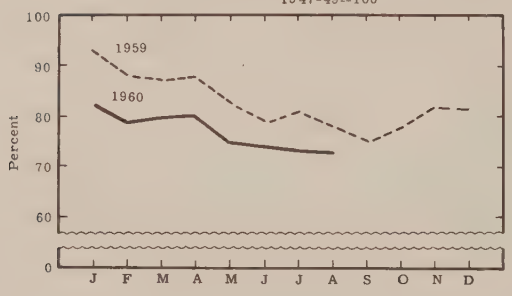
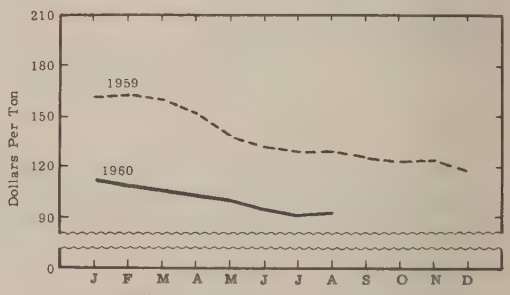


CHART 49 - WHOLESALE PRICE OF MENHADEN MEAL



For 60% protein, burlap bag, at Eastern ports.

Wholesale feedstuff index for August, 1960 was 73.0, about a 6 percent decrease from August last year (Chart 48).

Average wholesale price for menhaden meal is not expected to firm up during the last quarter. In August, the price was $91.30 per ton, at Eastern ports (Chart 49).

The statements appearing in this report are interpretations of past experiences influenced by current indications of what probably will occur. Wide use is made of interviews and correspondence with representative members of the commercial fishing industry, in order to obtain the opinions of the trade as to the business conditions generally expected to prevail during the period of the year covered by the report.

Sources of Chart Data

Chart 2, U. S. Department of Labor
Charts 9, 21, 23, 25, 31, 33, 36, 42, 43, 47, U. S. Department of Commerce
Charts 45, 48, U. S. Department of Agriculture
Charts 14, 24, California Department of Fish and Game, Marine Fisheries Branch
Chart 41, Canadian Bureau of Statistics

Market Terms Used In This Report

The terms under the headings Market, Supplies, and Demand are intended to indicate the degree of market activity produced by the particular supply and demand situation.

Market refers to movement of supplies and the price structure.

Supplies refer to available stocks, i.e. receipts, imports, cold-storage holdings, and processed fish and shellfish. The terms used are relative and do not signify any particular quantity.

Demand measures the readiness of the trade to absorb supplies.

Market	Supplies	Demand
Excited	Very heavy	Exceeds supply
Stronger	Heavy	Brisk
Strong	Liberal	Active
Active	Moderate-to-Liberal	Good
Firm	Moderate	Improving
Steady	Light-to-Moderate	Moderate
Unsettled	Light	Light
Dull		Slow
Weak		Practically no demand
Demoralized		No demand

Prices refer to those at wholesale or comparable level.

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Some of the publications consulted in preparing this report are listed below. Publications of the Fish and Wildlife Service are not included.

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